3.A - BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Background information on the Madera Region Regional Water Management Group (RWMG or Group) can be found in the group's 2008 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (https://sites.google.com/site/maderairwm/home), and their Region Acceptance Process (RAP) Application, which was submitted to the Department of Water Resources in 2011. A map of the region and its current members is shown in **Figure 3.1**.

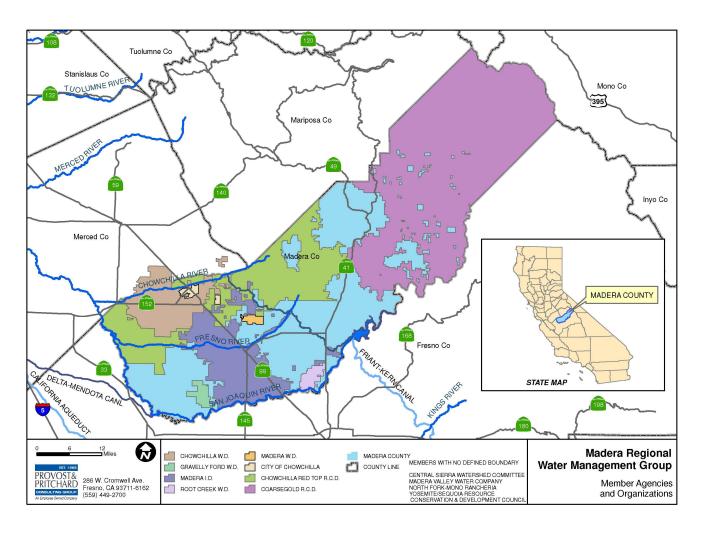


Figure 3.1 – Madera Regional Water Management Group

3.B - GENERAL OVERVIEW OF WORK PLAN

The IRWMP update will include the following:

- 1. Stakeholder meetings to obtain feedback;
- 2. Workshops to develop integrated strategies;
- 3. Researching the required information to update the plan according to the most current data, stakeholder input, and the workshop results; and
- 4. Reorganize and rewrite the IRWMP so it complies with new IRWMP plan standards.

The IRWMP update will take 16 months to complete. The process will be managed by the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (Council), which has agreed to work with and represent the RWMG. The Council will supply the grant administrator and the clerical/fiscal administration support throughout the 16-month period.

Through a competitive process, the RWMG has selected Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group to update the IRWMP. Their responsibilities will include collecting stakeholder information, and rewriting, reorganizing, and updating the current Plan to meet the new Proposition 84 Plan Standards. The RWMG members and other interested will have numerous opportunities to assist with the IRWMP update and provide comments.

The RWMG has secured a grant from the California Department of Water Resources for Facilitation Support Services. Through the grant, a professional facilitator will participate in five meetings with the Madera RWMG, and three meetings in local disadvantaged communities (DACs). The RWMG hopes to achieve the following milestones through the facilitated meetings:

- Formalize the governance structure including definition of the roles and responsibilities of the RWMG's Project Manager/Coordinator, as well as those of stakeholder and voting members;
- Conduct successful outreach to DACs, resulting in the addition of DAC stakeholders and/or members to the RWMG and inclusion of DAC water quality and wastewater issues in the Plan's project list; and
- 3. Begin the process of updating the current Plan to Proposition 84 standards.

3.C - NEED FOR IRWMP UPDATE

The RWMG recognizes that updating the IRWMP will offer many benefits including:

- 1. The planning process will provide a structured opportunity to encourage participation by more regional stakeholders. With additional stakeholder participation, there may be a more diverse group to provide expertise and perspectives on issues affecting the region.
- 2. The Governance process will be revised to make it more inclusive, efficient and effective.
- 3. The update process will provide an opportunity to create a comprehensive list of projects/recommendations for future prioritization and implementation. This list will include the projects/recommendations in the original plan, and those that have emerged since the original Plan was created.
- 4. The existing IRWMP is lacking detail on several of the sixteen IRWMP standards, and the RWMG recognizes that regional planning cannot be thorough or effective unless all of these topics are adequately addressed.
- 5. The planning process will allow the region to consolidate information about Climate Change, its potential impacts on water supplies and processes, and possible opportunities for mitigation and adaptation.
- 6. Finally, the update process will give the region extensive opportunities to further develop relationships and cooperative programs with five neighboring IRWMPs that have recently signed Letters of Agreement with the Madera RWMG. These letters are included in **Attachment 3.1**.

3.D - CURRENT STATUS IN MEETING IRWMP PLAN STANDARDS

The content of the existing IRWMP, prepared in 2008, was compared to the new IRWMP Plan standards. This comparison is summarized in Table 3.1, which shows each chapter of the proposed IRWMP update, sections from the existing IRWMP that will be reused, and new information that will be added. Table 3.1 shows the critical gaps in the existing IRWMP, how these gaps will be addressed, and provides the basis for the detailed scope of work presented below. For additional information on the current IRWMP, see the Table of Contents provided as **Attachment 3.2.** An electronic PDF copy can be found at https://sites.google.com/site/maderairwm/home.

Table 3.1 - Comparison of Chapters in Current IRWMP to Proposed Updated IRWMP

No.	Chapter	Existing IRWMP	Updated IRWMP
1	Introduction	Executive Summary Chapter 1 Purpose of Plan Regional Goals Plan Scope Regional Planning Process Abbreviations Report Organization	 Update general background information Revise the Report Organization Section to reflect the new and deleted chapters and revised content Add a Guide to How IRWMP meets State Standards Section.
2	Governance and Coordination	None	The governance structure will be documented from existing documents and policies, and any newly developed policies. Existing documents include an MOU, Bylaws and Rules of Order, Mission Statement, and Member Code of Ethics. • Document a governance structure that addresses: - Public outreach - Decision making and equal opportunity for participation - Effective internal and external communication - Long-term implementation - Coordination with neighboring IRWMPs and State/Federal agencies - Process used to establish plan objectives - Process for interim changes, updating or amending the IRWMP • Describe new planning framework and integration strategy

No.	Chapter	Existing IRWMP	Updated IRWMP
3	Region Description	Chapter 2 Description of Study Area County Regions and Study Areas Population Topography Land Use Watersheds Chapter 6 Water Quality Chapter 7 Flood Control Planning Flooding Problems	 Update the Description of Region Section to include a basis for the region's boundaries, identify neighboring IRWM efforts, and explain gap areas and overlaps. Incorporate information from new members
4	Disadvantaged Communities	None	 Include discussions of DACs and SDACs. Add Social and Cultural Makeup of the Regional Community Section and Disadvantaged Communities Sections. Describe a DAC Outreach Plan Address disadvantaged tribal communities
5	Goals and Objectives	Chapter 1 • Regional Goals	 Review and update list of objectives to include new considerations, such as 20 x 2020 water efficiency goals, and increased focus on disadvantaged communities Assign qualitative or quantitative metrics to each objective. Prioritize the objectives or include reasons why they are not prioritized Update water supply reliability and demand variations based on climate change scenarios
6	Resource Management Strategies	Chapter 8 Valley Floor Water Management Foothills and Mountains Water Management Water Quality Improvement Opportunities	 Update Chapter to include additional water management strategies discussed in the 2009 California Water Plan Update, including: agricultural water efficiency, urban water efficiency, precipitation enhancement, incentive programs, rain-fed agriculture and others. Discuss their applicability in the region. Consider the effects of climate change on the applicability and effectiveness of each water management strategy.

No.	Chapter	Existing IRWMP	Updated IRWMP
7	Project Review Process	None	 Document the current Project Screening and Prioritization Process Document the current Project Submittal Process Document improvements and changes to the Project Review Process
8	Impacts and Benefits of Plan Implementation	None	Discuss potential impacts and benefits of Plan Implementation, including: Potential benefits of implementing a regional plan Impacts and benefits of specific water management strategies When more detailed benefit/impact analysis is needed for specific projects
9	Plan Performance and Monitoring	None	Develop metrics for monitoring and evaluating IRWMP success including: Management plan for monitoring including responsibilities, reporting procedures, and data management Procedure for communicating lessons learned to IRWMP members and incorporating them into the IRWMP updates General criteria for project-specific monitoring plans
10	Data Management	None	 Discuss the process of data collection, storage and dissemination to IRWMP participants, stakeholders, the public, and the State. Discuss the benefits and possible features of a regional Data Management System
11	Financing	Valley Floor Water Management Foothills and Mountains Water Management Water Quality Improvement Opportunities (Includes discussion of capital costs of potential projects.)	Update and expand discussion on funding opportunities and sources for: Capital costs for programs Lifecycle costs for projects Data collection and monitoring IRWMP administration and updates. Add required discussions of: Funding source reliability O&M funding

No.	Chapter	Existing IRWMP	Updated IRWMP
12	Technical Analysis	Chapter 3	Identify and describe technical information used in developing IRWMP Evaluate adequacy of information Describe how technical information aids in understanding the region's water management picture.
13	Relation to Local Water and Land Use Planning	Chapter 2	 Update list of local water and land-use plans Discuss how IRWMP relates to the local documents, and the dynamics between IRWMP and local water plans Discuss future collaborations between land use planners and water managers
14	Stakeholder Involvement	Chapter 1 • Stakeholder Participation	Assist IRWMP leadership with Stakeholder Involvement, which is assumed to include the following: Newsletters, website postings and email correspondence Presentations to IRWMP Group (15 assumed) Presentations to IRWMP Committees (6 assumed) Special DAC meetings and Governance Workshops Distribute Draft IRWMP Updates and respond to comments Document Stakeholder Involvement for plan update in the IRWMP Discuss future Stakeholder Involvement needs and methods

No.	Chapter	Existing IRWMP	Updated IRWMP
15	Climate Change	None	 Review Climate Change documents, including the Climate Change section of the California Water Master Plan Update 2009, the Awhanee Principle for Climate Change, 2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy, and others listed in the DWR Climate Change Clearinghouse Discuss potential effects of climate change on the IRWMP region Evaluate the IRWM region's vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change Identify potential adaptation responses to those vulnerabilities Incorporate climate change elements from local plans into the IRWMP Develop a CEQA-compliant process to disclose and consider GHG emissions when choosing between project alternatives
	Appendices	 A – Groundwater Conditions in the Oakhurst Area B – Groundwater Conditions in the North Fork Area C – Groundwater Conditions in the Coarsegold Area D – Groundwater Conditions in the Raymond and Daulton Ranch/Hensley Lake Areas E – Hillview Water Company – Sierra Lakes Wells Centralized Treatment for Arsenic and Uranium – Task Memorandum Report F – Proposed Groundwater Monitoring Program for Madera County G – Responses to Comments and Questions on Draft Integrated Regional Water Management Plan 	Attach the updated project list as an Appendix. Replace Appendix G with comments on updated IRWMP.

3.E - SCOPE OF WORK - COST SHARE PRIOR TO GRANT AWARD

This purpose of this section is to discuss the cost share Scope of Work performed between September 30, 2008 and March 1, 2012. This work is primarily comprised of in-kind salary costs for RWMG members.

It has been the intent of the Madera RWMG that the IRWMP be a "living document" that will be updated and revised as conditions change or additional data and information are made available. The initial commitment was for the RWMG to review the plan every six months and make recommendations for updates and modifications. However, just as the region's stakeholders were adopting the plan in 2008, the new IRWMP requirements of Proposition 84 were released. Since that time the region's stakeholders have focused their energy on developing a regional water management group and preparing to update the Plan to the new Proposition 84 standards.

Much of the in-kind work was performed by a 'RWMG Formation Committee', which developed governance documents, and prepared an application for the Region Acceptance Process. The Committee performed extensive outreach as part of these efforts. Stakeholders representing water agencies, agriculture, Madera County, power producers, conservation groups, state and federal agencies, watershed collaboratives, business owners, Native American tribes, disadvantaged communities, residents, and recreation enthusiasts were invited by email, mail and newspaper notices to take part in the first RWMG Formation Committee meeting held on January 12, 2009. Twenty-one stakeholders attended that initial meeting. Many additional meetings were held, and the Formation Committee continued to reach out to additional stakeholders to expand RWMG membership with representatives who have interest, knowledge, and experience in diverse areas of water management.

Following is a discussion of the in-kind work performed for Tasks 1 to 5.

Task 1 - Governance and Policy Documents

The RWMG has created and adopted several governance documents including a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for RWMG members, Mission Statement, Bylaws and Rules of Order, and a Member Code of Ethics. The RWMG also prepared a Project Review Process for prioritizing and selecting projects for funding. This process is partially documented in the RWMG's MOU. For an entire year, the RWMG Formation Committee worked to create an MOU for the official formation of the RWMG. Meetings were held in diverse venues, seeking to include as many stakeholders as possible. After numerous iterations and drafts, the MOU was completed in January, 2010. On January 26, 2010, all organizations interested in signing the MOU attended a well-publicized signing event. The MOU and other governance documents helped the RWMG meet several of the governance requirements in the new IRWMP standards.

<u>Task 2 - Region Acceptance Process Application</u>

The RWMG completed the necessary application for the DWR Region Acceptance Process (RAP), and it was accepted by DWR on June 6, 2011. The RWMG Formation Committee was the primary body responsible for preparing the RAP application. This process helped the group improve organization, communication, and governance, establish regional goals, and better recognize their identity as a regional water management group.

<u>Task 3 – Facilitator Support Services Grant Application</u>

The RWMG prepared and submitted a successful grant application to the DWR for facilitation support services. The grant application outlines a series of workshops to develop a more detailed governance structure as well as meetings in high priority DACs with the multiple objectives of encouraging their participation in the IRWMP, identifying their problems, and identifying potential projects in the DACs.

Task 4 – Consultant Selection for IRWMP Update

Through a competitive process, the RWMG selected a consultant to assist with the IRWMP Planning Grant and IRWMP update through a competitive process. This included preparing a Request for Proposals, soliciting proposals from qualified consultants, and reviewing the proposals. The consultant was selected through a review of consultant's qualifications, proposed approach, proposed scope of work, and estimated fees.

Task 5 - IRWMP Planning Grant Application

The RWMG prepared applications for IRWMP Planning Grants in 2010 and 2012. The applications included detailed scopes of work, cost estimates and budgets that will help guide the Plan update. During the grant application process, RWMG members met to discuss priorities, ideas, and approaches for updating the IRWMP. These tasks would have been performed even if the RWMG did not purse an IRWMP Planning Grant. The cost share for this task includes lump sum payments to a professional grant writer and engineering consultant and salary costs for RWMG members.

3.F - GRANT WORK PLAN CONTENT

The following tasks have been identified as necessary to prepare an update to the Madera region IRWMP. This update is required to bring the document into compliance with revised regulations and guidelines promulgated under Proposition 84, passed by the voters in 2006, which adds significant detail and several subject areas to the original report outline specified by Proposition 50 in 2002. In the task listing below, the necessary additional sections and subjects are highlighted and discussed. The tasks are consistent with the budget and schedule sections, and have been prepared to provide an efficient way to solicit stakeholder input and meet the statutory requirements. The IRWMP update process will utilize committee and regular meetings to solicit stakeholder input and present updates on the IRWMP update.

IRWMP Update Committee

The IRWMP update will be led by an **IRWMP Update Committee** (Committee). The committee will be comprised of the engineering consultant and approximately six to eight RWMG members who volunteer to participate. The Committee would provide a smaller, more focused group able to concentrate on specific topics. This will prevent the need for all RWMG members to attend lengthy meetings on a regular basis. The work from the Committee will be summarized and presented to the RWMG for their comments at the RWMG's regular monthly meetings.

IRWMP Organization

The IRWMP will generally be organized according to the 16 IRWMP Standards presented in DWR's *Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E IRWMP Guidelines*. This logical organization will provide expedited and simplified review by DWR. The IRWMP will include a separate chapter for each standard, with the following exceptions:

- Coordination. The Coordination standard will be combined with the Governance standard. These two standards are closely related and the Group's governance structure will include protocols, policies and goals related to coordination with other IRWMP groups, state agencies, and federal agencies.
- Integration. The Integration standard is not included as a task because it will be addressed in other plan sections, such as governance, stakeholder involvement and data management. Integration is combining separate pieces into an efficiently functioning unit. The development and implementation of the IRWMP will demonstrate that the Group is forming, coordinating, and integrating separate efforts in order to function as a unified effort.
- Disadvantaged Communities. Disadvantaged Communities is not listed as a separate IRWMP standard, but due to its high importance in the Madera area, it will be given its own independent chapter in the updated IRWMP.

 Water and Land Use Planning. Relation to Local Water Planning and Relation to Local Land Use Planning will be combined and addressed in a single IRWMP chapter. Combining the two standards is logical since it will allow the Plan to take a multidisciplinary and integrated approach to the inter-related long-term planning efforts throughout the region.

Following is a description of Tasks 6 to 9, which will be performed between April 2012 and November 2013.

Task 6 – Stakeholder Meetings

- **6.1 Initial Project Meeting.** An initial kick-off meeting will be held with the RWMG and other interested stakeholders. During this meeting the RWMG will present a summary of the required changes to the IRWMP, provide an overview of the proposed scope of work, budget, and schedule, and confirm the approach to achieve maximum stakeholder input. Members will also be invited to participate in the IRWMP Update Committee (Task 1.2), and informed of other opportunities for stakeholder input.
- **6.2 IRWMP Update Committee Meetings.** Throughout the course of the project, the consultant will conduct regular meetings with the IRWMP Update Committee to provide updates on progress and solicit input from the Committee. RWMG members will be invited to participate on the Committee, which will include 6 to 8 members. It is assumed that the Committee will meet six times. Each meeting will cover two or three chapters in the IRWMP. Topics discussed will include requirements for each chapter, available data and information, and what could be included in the IRWMP. Meeting minutes will be prepared, and the results from each meeting will be presented at a monthly IRWMP Stakeholder Meeting (Task 6.3).
- **6.3 Monthly IRWMP Stakeholder Meetings.** Critical to a thorough and implementable Plan is stakeholder understanding and input. This will be partially achieved through monthly stakeholder meetings to solicit input on the IRWMP update. As with the IRWMP Update Committee meetings, each Stakeholder meeting will focus on one or two specific topics, such as Climate Change, rather than the entire update.

All RWMG meetings are open to members, stakeholders and the general public. The RWMG will meet once a month during the 16-month project period. These meetings are rotated between three locations; two in the valley and one in the foothills, to provide an opportunity for all to attend in the extensive region. The RWMG will develop and distribute the agendas for the meetings, prepare meeting minutes, and provide copies of meeting materials. All meetings will be documented and the results incorporated into the Plan Update.

The goals of the monthly RWMG meetings are:

- 1. Allow for broad stakeholder input on updating the IRWMP.
- 2. Discuss compliance with the IRWMP Plan Standards (see Tasks 7.2-7.15).
- 3. Provide updates on progress
- 4. Brainstorm how to approach the most critical issues in an integrated regional manner, with collaboration and cooperation from the various stakeholders.
- 5. Discuss integrated project strategies and how to coordinate and collaborate on priority projects.

Meetings will be publicized on the IRWMP website and through an extensive stakeholder email list. In addition, some stakeholders that currently have little involvement in the IRWMP will be directly contacted and invited to attend. These will include Disadvantaged Communities and Native American tribes.

<u>Task 7 – Prepare Draft IRWMP Update</u>

7.1 - Chapter 1: Introduction

The Introduction will be updated to reflect the new document organization.

- 7.1.a. Update Background Information. General background information on the RWMG will be updated to reflect current conditions.
- <u>7.1.b. Report Organization.</u> The IRWMP will be revised to discuss the new report structure, and how it is organized according to the 16 IRWMP Plan Standards.
- 7.1.c. Guide to How IRWMP Meets State Standards. This section will describe in detail how the IRWMP meets State IRWMP standards, and where required topics can be found in the document.

7.2 - Chapter 2 – Governance and Coordination

Proposition 84 Guidelines require that the governance structure of a RWMG be documented in their IRWMP Plan, including how the RWMG complies with the California Water Code, and has sufficient breadth of membership and participation to develop the Plan. To achieve this, the Group's current MOU will be updated and expanded. The revised MOU will be presented at a public IRWMP meeting and posted on the Group's website for 30-day review periods. The new governance structure will be established early so the Group can operate under a more formal organized structure during the Plan update. The governance structure will also overlap with some other IRWMP standards including Objectives, Project Review Process, Finance, Stakeholder Involvement and Integration.

- 7.2.a. Review Documents and Agreements. The first step will include identifying functional requirements, based on the IRWMP standards, and specific needs of the Group. An explanation will be provided if certain requirements are not applicable to the region. Existing documents will be reviewed for compliance including the RWMG MOU, Bylaws and Rules of Order, Mission Statement, and Member Code of Ethics. At least two MOUs for other regional water management agencies will be reviewed as examples.
- 7.2.b. Public Outreach and Community Affairs. This task will document a public outreach and community affairs process to help ensure that stakeholders are involved with the RWMG governance. These processes will be developed and implemented as part of Task 7.4 Disadvantaged Communities and Task 7.14 Stakeholder Involvement.
- <u>7.2.c.</u> <u>Decision Making and Participation</u>. A protocol for decision making and participation will be developed. This will address the topics of voting, quorums, and the rights of members versus interested parties (non-members).
- <u>7.2.d Communication.</u> This task will evaluate current methods of communication both internal and external to the RWMG. Formal notification and communication methods regarding meetings, decisions, funding availability, and IRWMP updates will be developed and documented.
- 7.2.e Coordination with other IRWMPs and Agencies. This task will include a discussion of past, present and future efforts to coordinate within the Madera Region, with other IRWMP groups, and with State and Federal Agencies. Stakeholder input will be solicited on how coordination can be improved. This sub-task will satisfy the Coordination IRWMP standard. Existing coordination efforts will be documented and include:
 - Letter of Agreement with Southern Sierra RWMG
 - Letter of Agreement with Yosemite/Mariposa RWMG
 - Letter of Agreement with Merced RWMG
 - Letter of Agreement with Invo-Mono RWMG
 - Letter of Agreement with Kings Basin RWMG
 - Letter of Agreement with Westside-San Joaquin (pending)
 - Madera County Water Advisory Committee
 - Madera-Chowchilla Basin Groundwater Monitoring Group
 - Sierra Water Workgroup
- 7.2.f Process for Changes, Updates and Integration. A process will be developed for updating the IRWMP. It is anticipated that the RWMG will propose to prepare an annual report each year that will be considered an addendum to

the IRWMP, with major IRWMP updates about every five years, or as required by DWR.

- <u>7.2.g. Document Governance Structure.</u> The final governance structure will be documented in a revised MOU, and separate policy documents, if needed.
- <u>7.2.h Governance Workshops.</u> The RWMG will hold five Governance Workshops open to the RWMG members and all interested stakeholders. The workshops will be led by a professional facilitator. The purpose of the workshops is to openly discuss and share ideas on how to best structure the RWMG's governance structure, and satisfy the IRWMP plan standards for Governance.

Deliverables: Major deliverables under this task include a Revised Governance MOU.

7.3 - Chapter 3 – Regional Description

Much of the information needed for this section exists in the current Plan. Some additional information will be added including descriptions of internal geographical boundaries, neighboring IRWMP efforts, and new members. In addition, some water supply and demand discussions from other parts of the current Plan will be moved to this section. The goal will be to summarize regional water resources data so all participants have the necessary background information to participate in regional planning and decision making. Information will generally be used from existing sources and it is not anticipated that new information will be collected. The information in this section will provide an important foundation for several other IRWMP sections including Resource Management Strategies, Plan Performance and Monitoring, Technical Analysis, Relation to Local Water and Land Use Planning, Disadvantaged Communities, and Climate Change.

- <u>7.3.a IRWMP Boundary.</u> The IRWMP boundary will be mapped and described in more detail. The practical reasons and hydrologic basis for selecting the boundary will also be discussed.
- <u>7.3.b Neighboring IRWMP Efforts.</u> Neighboring IRWMP efforts will be mapped and described. The RWMG's relationship with each neighboring group will be discussed, including current MOUs with several IRWMP groups.
- <u>7.3.c New Member Information.</u> Several new members have joined the RWMG since the last IRWMP was written, and the RWMG anticipates that several more may join while the IRWMP is updated. Relevant background information on these members will be added to the IRWMP.

7.4 - Chapter 4 – Disadvantaged Communities

Due to its high importance in the region, a separate chapter will be devoted exclusively to Disadvantaged Communities (DACs).

- 7.4.a. Prioritize DACs. Madera County as a whole and the vast majority of towns and communities within its borders meet the definition of a Disadvantaged Community (DAC). As a result, DACs will be prioritized and mapped. A preliminary list of priority DACs has been prepared and includes Fairmead, Raymond, North Fork, Trigo and Parksdale. Disadvantaged tribal communities will also be considered. This list will be reviewed and refined. Specific criteria for selecting high-priority DACs will be established and documented. Some criteria may include classification as a Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC, mean household income less than 60% of California average), water quality problems, water reliability, existing infrastructure, and other relevant criteria.
- <u>7.4.b Prepare Social/Cultural Makeup of Regional Community.</u> Describe the social and cultural makeup of the region including demographics, income distribution, environmental justice issues, and other relevant social and geographic data.
- <u>7.4.c DAC Outreach Plan.</u> A DAC Outreach Plan will be prepared, including protocols and goals for engaging DACs in the near and long-term future. The DAC Outreach Plan which will consider some practical factors, such as some DACs not having internet access or transportation to attend meetings. The Plan will document specific outreach methods, high priority DACs, and methods for measuring the success of outreach efforts. The Plan will also describe possible efforts to engage Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that assist DACs. The goal of the DAC Outreach Plan is to establish a long-term sustainable movement designed to last beyond initial outreach efforts. The DAC Outreach Plan will be presented to the RWMG for comments, and will be implemented after its approval.
- <u>7.4.d DAC Outreach Meetings.</u> Three special meetings will be held with high-priority DACs. These meetings will be led by a professional facilitator. The goals of the meetings will include: 1) explain the purpose and benefits of an IRWMP; 2) encourage DACs to join the RWMG; 3) identify DAC water resources problems, concerns, and priorities; and 4) identify specific projects that could benefit the DACs. These meetings will be held in the disadvantaged communities to give the residents and local water managers the greatest opportunity to participate.

Deliverables: Major deliverables under this task include a comprehensive DAC Outreach Plan.

7.5 - Chapter 5 – Goals and Objectives

This task will involve developing regional water management objectives, ranking those objectives, and assigning numerical metrics. Goals and objectives found in the 2008 IRWMP and the RWMG MOU will be reviewed and updated. Updated objectives will be

drafted by the IRWMP Update Committee and then presented to the entire RWMG for comments and final approval. The objectives will be established early so they can be used to guide the selection of prospective projects and evaluation of resource management strategies.

- 7.5.a Review and Update List of Objectives. For planning purposes, the Region has been divided into two subareas in recognition of the hydrogeologic differences: 1) the Valley Floor and 2) the Foothills and Mountains. The 2008 IRWMP developed goals for each of these subareas, and these will be updated for each subarea accordingly. Regional goals will be updated as part of the IRWMP analysis, using data contained in existing studies and especially through stakeholder input. The goals will also be revised based on input from new RWMG members. In addition, goals will be added to address new legislation, including the Senate Bill X7- 7 water conservation requirements. Lastly, the goals will be updated to reflect expected impacts from climate change.
- 7.5.b Assign Metrics to Each Objective. Qualitative or quantitative metrics will be assigned to each goal. The metrics will be selected so that they are practical, data will be readily available to inform the metric, and the metric will be useful in evaluating progress toward achieving related goals. Sample metrics could include the number of new DACs that have joined the RWMG, or the volume of new water storage capacity constructed to address climate change.
- <u>7.5.c Prioritize Objectives.</u> The objectives will be prioritized, or alternatively reasons will be given on why they are not prioritized. Several options will be considered for prioritizing objectives including: 1) ranking in numerical order; 2) grouping into low, moderate, high priority, etc.; 3) categorizing as short-term and long-term, etc. Multi-attribute decision making methods, such as the Delphi Method, may be used to rank and score the objectives.
- <u>7.5.d</u> <u>Update Water Supply and Demand for Climate Change.</u> The Updated IRWMP will analyze how each objective may be affected by global climate change, and how each fits into the overall State strategy for greenhouse gas reduction as mandated by Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32).

7.6 - Chapter 6 – Resource Management Strategies.

This chapter will include a critical review of multiple resource management strategies.

7.6.a - Include 2009 Resource Management Strategies. This chapter will be updated to include critical review of the entire palette of 32 resource management strategies included in the 2009 California Water Plan Update. The IRWMP will include a description of each strategy, discussion of whether or how the strategy is currently pursued in the area, and its applicability and potential for future use. Those strategies which don't fit for this region will not be evaluated,

and an explanation will be provided on why they are not applicable. Stakeholders will be encouraged to use new strategies to help the region diversify its water management efforts.

<u>7.6.b - Consider Impacts of Climate Change on Each Strategy.</u> Each strategy will be evaluated for how it may be affected by global climate change, and how each fits into the overall State strategy for greenhouse gas reduction as mandated by AB 32.

7.7 - Chapter 7 – Project Review Process

The guidelines require that the Plan include a documented project review and approval process. The RWMG has an existing process that is documented in their MOU. This process was tested while preparing an Implementation Grant Application in 2011, and several areas for improvement were identified. These will be incorporated and the process updated to satisfy all criteria in the DWR IRWMP guidelines.

- <u>7.7.a Document Project Solicitation Process.</u> Develop protocol for soliciting project information, whether it is on a continuous basis, at regular intervals, etc. Develop a list of minimum project information needed for a project list in the IRWMP appendix.
- 7.7.b Document Project Screening and Prioritization Process. Develop a system for ranking and prioritizing projects, and selecting which should be funded by the Group or included in grant applications. Criteria could include economics, environmental concerns, water supply benefits, DAC benefits, likelihood to be permitted, status of permitting, and readiness to proceed. Minimum progress standards will be established for projects seeking construction grants, such as completion of a feasibility study, preliminary design, preliminary environmental studies, and agreements for land purchase. Projects have historically been submitted in a brief report. The existing report outline will be reviewed and updated based on the revised ranking criteria.
- 7.7.c Incorporate New Project Information. Members will be asked to submit a list of viable projects to include in the IRWMP project list. This list will be maintained in an appendix, updated annually, and will represent potentially viable projects for future implementation.

Deliverables: Major deliverable under this task include an updated Project Review Process

7.8 - Chapter 8 – Impacts and Benefits of Plan Implementation

<u>7.8.a - Benefits of the IRWMP.</u> This task will include identifying potential impacts and benefits of Plan implementation within the region and between regions. This

will include a discussion of the aggregated benefits of Plan implementation, as well as an analysis of possible impacts (economic, environmental, and others) that would require mitigation or justification.

7.8.b - Impacts/Benefits of Water Management Strategies. This task will include a critical review of the 32 water management strategies described in the 2009 California Water Plan Update to identify the potential benefits and impacts of implementing each strategy. Common impacts and benefits will be documented, but efforts will focus on impacts/benefits that are often overlooked or are unique to the region. Impacts and benefits will be identified for both the region and neighboring regions. Resource management strategies that are identified as not applicable to the region in Chapter 6 – Resource Management Strategies will not be evaluated.

7.8.c - Need for Benefit/Impact Analysis for Specific Projects. This task will evaluate the process for evaluating the benefits and impacts of specific projects. Specific details will be provided on the parameters and criteria used to evaluate projects. This sub-task overlaps with Task 7.7 – Project Review Process, which will use the impact/benefit assessment to evaluate which projects should be funded or included in grant applications.

7.9 - Chapter 9 - Plan Performance and Monitoring

As required by the guidelines, the RWMG will develop a management plan for monitoring including responsibilities, reporting procedures, and data management, and general criteria for project-specific monitoring plans including both qualitative and quantitative metrics as appropriate. The overall goal of the monitoring plan will be to help ensure that the goals of the IRWMP are met.

This work will build upon several existing regional monitoring programs including: 1) Madera-Chowchilla Basin Groundwater Monitoring Plan; and 2) Proposed Groundwater Monitoring Program for Madera County presented in the 2008 IRWMP.

7.9.a - Develop Metric for Monitoring IRWMP Success. Develop specific metrics to monitor success in achieving the goals of the IRWMP. These will be tied to the regional goals and objectives as well as completion of proposed projects. Examples of specific metrics may include reduction in groundwater overdraft in acre-feet, total dollar amount of funding secured, number of new stakeholders to join the IRWMP, and quantity of new water supplies secured through water conservation or floodwater capture. In addition, metrics will be identified for monitoring climate change and its impact on water supplies.

7.9.b - Management Plan for Monitoring Program. Develop a plan for monitoring progress in meeting the goals of the IRWMP. The plan will identify

responsibilities, procedures, and discuss the use of databases or forms to track progress.

<u>7.9.c - Lessons Learned.</u> The RWMG will also develop a procedure for communicating lessons learned to IRWMP members and incorporating them into the IRWMP updates. Lessons learned could be incorporated into the IRWMP goals, regional description, or resource management strategies. Lessons that have already been learned on recent projects will also be incorporated into the IRWMP.

7.9.d - Project Specific Monitoring Plans. Develop general criteria for developing monitoring plans that would be required for IRWMP-sponsored or funded projects. The monitoring criteria would help ensure that the project is monitored according to applicable rules, laws, permit requirements and contractual terms. Some possible criteria include: who is responsible for developing project specific plans, who has responsibility for project-specific monitoring, and when in the project process should plans be prepared. The monitoring plans would include information such as monitoring locations, monitoring frequency, protocols, reporting, standards, etc.

7.10 - Chapter 10 - Data Management

While each of the RWMG member agencies is already collecting and storing some amount of data, the new Plan guidelines require a discussion of how that data will be managed and stored for use by the RWMG.

<u>7.10.a - Develop and Describe Data Management Procedures.</u> This task will include discussions on the process of data collection, storage, and dissemination to RWMG members, stakeholders, the public, and the State. This discussion would be coordinated with RWMG members to assure that current procedures amongst the member agencies are properly documented.

<u>7.10.b - Regional Data Management System.</u> This task will include identification of options for region-wide data collection and storage processes, and selection of a favored option by the RWMG agencies. Data management systems being used or developed for adjacent regions will be reviewed and assessed on their applicability to the region.

7.11 - Chapter 11 – Financing

This task includes identifying and evaluating potential funding sources for the RWMG. Both secured and potential sources of funding will be evaluated, and the certainty of each funding source will be addressed.

- 7.11.a Project Specific Funding Sources and Opportunities. This task will identify funding sources for project implementation including state grants, federal grants, private grants, and agency finances such as reserve funds, bonds, water user fees, etc. Funding options for performing preliminary work, such as feasibility studies and grant applications, which are needed prior to project implementation, will also be evaluated. This section will be written with recognition that the group should not rely solely on DWR for implementation grant funding.
- <u>7.11.b Financing for IRWMP Admin/Updating.</u> This task will explore long-term sources of funding, such as general funds, rate based funds, or regular fees charged to each member. These funds would be used for financing IRWMP administrative efforts, and revising and updating the IRWMP.
- <u>7.11.c O&M Funding.</u> This task will develop a discussion of the sources and reliability of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funding for implementation projects with recognition that O&M costs are typically not fundable by grant programs. Possible funding sources that will be evaluated include user fees, assessments and private capital.

7.12 - Chapter 12 - Technical Analysis

The task includes an evaluation of the technical information, methods, and analyses used to understand the region's water management needs over a 20-year planning horizon. A brief description of the technical information used to develop water management statistics will be provided, along with an explanation on why this technical information is representative and adequate. In addition, this section will discuss how such studies, models and technical methodologies aid the understanding of the region's water management picture. This task will make use of information collected for Task 7.2 – Regional Description, Task 7.6 – Resource Management Strategies, and Task 7.15 – Climate Change.

7.13 - Chapter 13 - Relation to Local Water and Land Use Planning.

Two IRWMP Plan Standards, Relation to Local Water Planning and Relation to Local Land Use Planning, will be combined and addressed in a single IRWMP chapter. Combining the two standards will allow for a multidisciplinary and integrated approach to long-term planning.

7.13.a - Update List of Local Plans. The first task will be to review local water and land use planning documents, including urban water management plans, agricultural water management plans, groundwater management plans, water system master plans, General Plans and Specific Plans.

<u>7.13.b - Discuss How IRWMP Relates to Local Plans.</u> The Proposition 84 guidelines require that the Plan discuss the relationship between the RWMG, local land use agencies, and local water management agencies and how they work together to avoid duplication of effort or cross purposes. This discussion will require research and coordination with the affected local agencies and local water authorities.

<u>7.13.c - Collaboration Between Land Use and Water Managers</u>. The RWMG will work with the Group to develop language for the plan that meets the state's requirements and describes a process for inter-relationship that is workable in Madera County.

7.14 - Chapter 14 - Stakeholder Involvement

The RWMG has performed extensive public outreach while preparing the existing IRWMP in 2007-2008. As a result, most of the major stakeholders in the region are already involved. However, some smaller stakeholders, Native American tribes, local colleges and universities, and disadvantaged communities are not involved. As a result, the scope of work includes a focused effort to reach out to new stakeholders in addition to existing RWMG members. All potential stakeholders in the region are considered important and none will be ignored.

Stakeholder involvement will include a combination of flyers, newsletter articles, website postings, e-mail notifications, monthly stakeholder meetings, special committee meetings and governance workshop meetings, plus direct contact and meetings with DACs and local Native American tribes.

Stakeholders that are not yet involved will be specifically targeted. These include several local water agencies, disadvantaged communities, the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians, two Tribal Conservation Districts, and local colleges and universities. The goal is for all stakeholders in the region with responsibility for, or interests in, water management to be represented in the RWMG decision-making process. Such a broad spectrum of stakeholders ensures that divergent opinions, strategies, and methodologies will be fully considered as management issues arise.

Stakeholder involvement will also be performed under other tasks including Task 6 – Stakeholder Meetings, Task 7.2 – Governance, and Task 7.4 – Disadvantages Communities.

7.14.a - Newsletter Articles. Three newsletter articles will be prepared for public outreach. They will be published in the beginning, middle and end of the update process. They will explain the purpose of the RWMG and IRWMP, describe funding sources, and solicit input on the IRWMP update. The articles will be published and posted in a variety of print and electronic media to maximize the audience that reads them. Specifically, the articles will be placed on the RWMG

website, member agency websites, member agency Facebook pages, and in member agency newsletters and regular mailings.

- <u>7.14.b IRWMP Website.</u> The RWMG will regularly update the RWMG website with information about upcoming meetings, meeting agendas and notes, and drafts of the updated IRWMP. The website will also be designed to allow stakeholders to upload additional documents or references related to the IRWMP work. (Supplementary to this effort, the RWMG is seeking a public outreach grant from the Chukchansi Community Grant Program to perform a variety of outreach tasks, including creation of a premier high-quality website for the RWMG).
- <u>7.14.c Document Stakeholder Involvement in Plan Update</u>. The current stakeholder involvement efforts will be documented, and efforts for the IRWMP update will be developed and documented.
- <u>3.14.d Future Stakeholder Involvement Needs and Methods.</u> A future stakeholder involvement plan will be developed based on past outreach efforts, and any new methods that could have merit. The RWMG will also develop a plan to provide involvement for those stakeholders who choose to not become official members of the RWMG. The goal is to develop a sustainable Plan that will keep all stakeholders involved for the long-term.

7.15 - Chapter 15 – Climate Change

A new section for the updated Plan will be developed examining Climate Change effects on the region's water supply and how those effects potentially impact natural resources, agriculture, residential development and industrial activities. One of monthly RWMG Stakeholder meetings will be dedicated to this issue. The goal of the meeting will be to inform the stakeholders, obtain information, and examine potential policies and activities to respond to climate change challenges, including:

- Increased risk of fire
- Modification of habitat
- Changes in the amount, intensity, timing, quality, and variability of runoff and recharge
- Water storage needs
- Increased risk of flooding
- Water conservation opportunities

Dr. Roger Bales, a climate change and mountain hydrology expert at University of California, Merced, will assist with preparing this chapter, and will attend a meeting with Group members to discuss local climate change issues.

7.15.a - Literature Review. The RWMG will review climate change documents in the public domain. The primary reference will be the DWR's newly published 'Climate Change Handbook for Regional Water Planning'. The handbook includes numerous strategies for evaluating and adapting to climate change. These strategies will be reviewed, and those most applicable to the region will be identified.

The National Center for Conservation Science and Policy has already completed an excellent analysis of climate change impacts for this region, including proposed adaptation and mitigation strategies. Also, the California Department of Water Resources has created a Climate Change Document Clearinghouse, with additional research and information on how to deal with climate change. These resources will be used in the development of this Chapter.

Several other local and regional documents will be reviewed including:

- Climate Change section of the California Water Master Plan Update 2009
- The Ahwahnee Principle for Climate Change
- 2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy
- Climate Change studies and papers published in peer reviewed journals
- <u>7.15.b Identify Vulnerabilities.</u> The RWMG will perform a climate change vulnerability assessment using the qualitative checklist in DWR's "Climate Change Handbook for Regional Water Planning". The RWMG will also develop a plan for future data gathering and analyses of high-priority vulnerabilities. Special emphasis will be placed on snow and snowmelt since much of the region is located at moderate to high elevations.
- <u>7.15.c Identify Adaptive Responses.</u> Climate change adaptation opportunities will also be examined, including backup water supplies, water conservation and floodwater capture. Specific adaptation measures discussed in DWR's *Climate Change Handbook for Regional Water Planning* will also be listed and evaluated.
- 7.15.d Incorporate Climate Change Elements from Local Documents. Local documents prepared by other land and water management agencies will be reviewed for climate change discussions and analyses. Relevant information will be incorporated into the IRWMP, and the RWMG will openly discuss other local documents that are not consistent with the analysis performed for the IRWMP update.
- <u>7.15.e Develop Process for Considering Emissions.</u> The RWMG will develop a CEQA-compliant process to disclose and consider greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions when choosing between project alternatives. This process will be incorporated into the Project Review Process (Task 7.7).

7.16 - Presentation of Draft IRWMP

Upon completion of the draft IRWMP update, a summary presentation of the updated Plan will be conducted. This meeting will be open to all members and interested parties and will be scheduled at a regular monthly IRWMP meeting. The intent of the meeting is to provide an overall summary of the revised IRWMP to familiarize members and interested parties with the changes prior to providing final comments. The meeting will be publicized via email and the appropriate websites. At the meeting, copies of the draft IRWMP will be provided and a 45-day comment period opened.

Deliverables: Major deliverables under this task include the Draft IRWMP Update.

Task 8 – Preparation of Final IRWMP

This task involves assembling the final IRWMP document and distributing it to RWMG members and other interested stakeholders.

- **8.1 Summary of Comments Received.** All comments on the draft IRWMP will be summarized for consideration by the IRWMP Update Committee. The summary will include recommendations on how to respond to any significant comments in the final Plan.
- **8.2 Prepare Final IRWMP.** Upon reaching consensus on comment responses, the final IRWMP will be prepared. Hard copies and CDs of the final document will be prepared and distributed to member agencies. A digital copy of the final updated IRWMP and its appendices will be added to the IRWMP website.
- **8.3 IRWMP Highlight Document.** A Highlight Document summarizing the updated IRWMP will be prepared. The document will be similar in format to the California Water Plan 2009 Update Summary Document. Its purpose will be to provide a summary of the final IRWMP, educate stakeholders, and promote regional water management
- **8.4 Board Adoption of Updated Final IRWMP.** The updated Final IRWMP will be presented to the RWMG Board for approval at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. A summary of the final Plan changes will be presented to the Board.

Deliverables: Major deliverables under Task 8 include the final updated IRWMP and the IRWMP Highlight Document.

Task 9 - Grant Assistance Reporting

This task will include the following:

- **9.1 General Project Administration.** This task will include general project management, project coordination, consultant management, contracting, and on-going communications with DWR.
- **9.2 Quarterly Progress Reports.** Track project expenses, and prepare and submit Quarterly Progress Reports and Reimbursement Requests, according to DWR requirements.
- **9.3 Draft DWR Grant Report.** Prepare a draft DWR Grant Report documenting the work completed in preparing the IRWMP. This report will follow the outline and format requested by DWR and will discuss scope of work, budget, schedule, problems encountered and any other contractual issues. This report will not be the updated IRWMP but rather an administrative report documenting the work performed in updating the IRWMP. Stakeholders will be given an opportunity to review the draft report. One hard copy and one electronic copy will be sent to the DWR for review and comments.
- **9.4 Final DWR Grant Report.** The draft DWR Grant Report will be revised according to DWR's comments. One hard copy and one electronic copy will be submitted to DWR.

Deliverables: Major deliverables under Task 9 include quarterly progress reports, quarterly reimbursement requests, and draft and final DWR Grant Reports.

In-Kind Work for IRWMP Update

The IRWMP update will be led by an engineering consultant with assistance and input from the RWMG and interested stakeholders. In-kind costs will be claimed for stakeholders that assist with the IRWMP update. These costs are documented in the Attachment 4.2. These efforts will include some or all of the following:

- Provide, data, information and reports requested by the engineering consultant
- Assist directly with public outreach efforts
- Attend meetings including IRWMP Update Committee Meetings, Special DAC Meetings, Governance Workshop meetings, and Monthly RWMG Stakeholder Meetings
- Review and comment on special documents such as a new MOU, policy documents, proposed project ranking criteria, etc.
- Review and provide comments on the Draft IRWMP
- Perform legal review of the revised MOU and other legal documents

Additional IRWMP Work

No additional work is planned other than the work outlined in the Grant Work Plan. The work described in the Grant Work Plan will be sufficient to prepare an updated IRWMP that satisfies the IRWMP requirements described in DWR's *Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E Integrated Regional Water Management Guidelines* (August 2010).

3.G - DELIVERABLES

Deliverables during the development of the updated IRWMP are listed below. RWMG members and other stakeholders will have opportunities to comment on each of them:

- Quarterly Progress Reports
- Draft DWR Grant Report
- Final DWR Grant Report
- Revised Governance MOU
- DAC Outreach Plan
- Project Review Process
- Draft Updated IRWMP
- Final Updated IRWMP
- IRWMP Highlight Document

3.H - STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

The IRWMP update process will utilize committee meetings, stakeholder meetings, stakeholder workshops, and regular monthly RWMG meetings to solicit input and present updates on the planning process. Following is a summary of meetings that will be held while the IRWMP is being updated:

- Initial kickoff meeting (1)
- Monthly RWMG Stakeholder meetings (14)
- IRWMP Update Committee Meetings (6)
- Special DAC Meetings (3)
- Special Governance Workshops (5)

3.I - CEQA COMPLIANCE

Based on the anticipated content of the IRWMP, the Plan update would be statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262. Paraphrasing that section, "a project involving only planning studies for possible future actions which the agency has not yet been approved, adopted, or funded does not require the preparation of an EIR or Negative Declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors." This section does not apply to the adoption of a plan that will have a legally binding effect on later activities. Since the IRWMP does not create policy or invoke restrictions on future projects, the action is exempt from CEQA review, and the scope of the proposed IRWMP update work does not include any CEQA analysis.

3.J - DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Madera County as a whole, and the vast majority of towns and communities within its borders, meet the definition of a Disadvantaged Community (DAC), which requires that the community has a mean household income (MHI) less than 80% of the California MHI. Consequently, assisting DACs has always been a primary goal of the RWMG. Through an extensive public outreach effort most of the major agencies and water users in the Region are now part of the RWMG. However, many small and disadvantaged communities are not involved. As a result, the updated IRWMP will include an expanded and more focused approach for engaging DACs. Specifically, the RWMG has established the following goals for helping DACs:

- 1) Recruit six or more DACs to join the RWMG as members or interested parties;
- 2) Encourage DACs to participate more in the regional planning process;
- 3) Help identify projects in DACs that may be eligible for grant funding; and
- 4) Set in motion a long-term sustainable collaboration, designed to last far beyond initial outreach efforts.

The RWMG will take several steps to include DACs in the IRWMP development and implementation. Below is a discussion on the planned efforts to attain these goals.

DAC Section in Updated IRWMP. Due to the high importance of DACs in the region, the updated IRWMP will dedicate a new Chapter 4 exclusively to DACs. This chapter will discuss the social and cultural makeup of the region, environmental justice concerns, a DAC Outreach Plan, and problems and priorities in DACs.

DAC Outreach Plan. A DAC Outreach Plan will be prepared as part of Task 7.4 – Disadvantaged Communities. The Plan will include protocols and goals for engaging DACs in the near and long-term future. The Outreach Plan will also document specific outreach methods, high-priority DACs, and methods for measuring the success of outreach efforts.

DAC Prioritization. Since most communities in Madera County are considered DACs, the RWMG must prioritize them. Specific criteria for selecting high-priority DACs will be established and documented. Some criteria may include classification as a Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC, where mean MHI is less than 60% of California average), water quality problems, water reliability, existing infrastructure, etc. The RWMG has already identified several candidate communities that may be the focus of DAC outreach efforts. These communities include Fairmead, Raymond, North Fork, Trigo and Parksdale. This list will be reviewed and refined.

Special DAC Meetings. Three special meetings will be held with high-priority DACs. These interactive meetings will be led by a professional facilitator. The goals of the

Madera Region IRWMP Attachment 3 - Work Plan

meetings include: 1) explain the purpose and benefits of the IRWMP; 2) encourage the DACs to join the RWMG; 3) identify their water resources problems, concerns and priorities; and 4) identify specific projects that could benefit the DACs. The meetings will be held in the DAC communities to encourage attendance.

Stakeholder Involvement (Chapter 14). DACs will be engaged through several methods described in Chapter 14 - Stakeholder Involvement (Task 7.14). These include newsletters, websites, member agency Facebook pages, monthly stakeholder meetings and special committee meetings. Chapter 14 will discuss past and future stakeholder involvement efforts. This chapter is germane to all stakeholders, and its methods and goals are especially applicable to DACs.

Engage Non-Governmental Organizations that Assist DACs. The RWMG plans to contact organizations that assist DACs, such as Self-Help Enterprises, a local non-governmental organization that assists DACs with housing, sewer, and water projects. Self-Help Enterprises was on the RWMG Formation Committee, and will be encouraged to become a formal member of the RWMG. Organizations like Self-Help Enterprises are especially important as RWMG members because they acknowledge and understand the needs of the DACs.